15

sleeve 486 working as a guide for cutting bone pocket 456 after insertion to appropriate depth into bone 412. In particular, distal most tip 450 is brought into contact with an outer surface 460 of bone 412, while sleeve 486 is located at a position away from the tapered drill end 432. Bone cutting 5 tool 400 is rotated around longitudinal axis 440 by manipulation of driving device 436. Gradually, bone cutting tool 400 moves into and through outer surface 460 of bone 412 by the cutting action of tapered drill end 432. Bone cutting tool 400 may establish a bore 462 within bone 412 having an inner 10 diameter 464 that corresponds to the outer diameter 430 of tapered drill end 432. Bone cutting tool 400 advances inwardly of bone 412 until an appropriate cutting depth is reached.

Chamfered end 499 of sleeve 486 is then inserted into bore 15 462. Continuous rotation of bone cutting tool 400 by manipulation of driving device 436, while simultaneously applying axial and rotational force to sleeve 486, causes eccentric rotation of tapered drill end 432 allowing the sleeve 486 to be inserted into the bore 462. Movement of sleeve 486 into bore 20 462 forces body portion 424 and tapered drill end 432 to cut into bore 462 in a spiraled offset manner. Sleeve 486 is prevented from moving further into bone 412 by flange 498. As bone 412 is removed from bore 462, a bone pocket 456 is of tapered drill end 432 causes sleeve 486 to more freely move within bore 462. Accordingly, tapered drill end 432 begins to move freely within bore 462, but only to the extent permitted by the dimensional offset of inner aperture 448.

As can be seen in FIG. 58, bone cutting tool 400 is then 30 centered and reversed out of bore 462 and bone 412. Bone pocket 456 includes a widened socket 470 and 360° shoulder 472, corresponding in shape and size to tapered drill end 432. Bone pocket 456 is sized to receive soft suture anchor 214, as previously described.

With reference now to FIG. 60, an alternate sleeve 586 is shown for attachment to the bone cutting tool 400. Sleeve 586 includes an offset inner aperture 548 and a flange 598, which function as described above. Accordingly, alternative sleeve **586** is similar to the sleeve **486** of FIGS. **54-59**, but does not 40 include chamfered end 499. When sleeve 586 is in use, bone cutting tool 400 may be manually angled to allow for insertion of sleeve 586 into bore 462.

The description of the invention is merely exemplary in nature and, thus, variations that do not depart from the gist of 45 the invention are intended to be within the scope of the invention. For example, any of the above mentioned surgical procedures is applicable to repair of other body portions. For example, the procedures can be equally applied to the repair of wrists, elbows, ankles, and meniscal repair. The suture 50 loops can be passed through bores formed in soft or hard tissue. It is equally envisioned that the loops can be passed through or formed around an aperture or apertures formed in prosthetic devices e.g. humeral, femoral or tibial stems. Further, the suture material and collapsible tubes can be formed 55 of resorbable material. Such variations are not to be regarded as a departure from the spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

- 1. A method for attaching a fixation device to a bone, the method comprising:
  - bringing a bone cutting tool that extends along a longitudinal axis into engagement with an outer surface of the
  - rotating the bone cutting tool about the longitudinal axis while driving the bone cutting tool from the outer sur- 65 face of the bone to a predetermined depth in the bone to form a bore;

16

continuously rotating the bone cutting tool at the predetermined depth while maintaining the bone cutting tool in a substantially stationary position to establish an enlarged bone pocket at a distal end of the bore, the bone pocket defining a shoulder extending around a circumference between the bone pocket and the bore:

removing the bone cutting tool from the bone pocket and

inserting the fixation device into the bone pocket through the bore; and

positioning the fixation device against the shoulder of the bone pocket.

- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein continuously rotating the bone cutting tool is performed without removing the bone cutting tool from the bore and after rotating the bone cutting tool into position at the predetermined depth.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein rotating the bone cutting tool about the longitudinal axis pulls the bone cutting tool into
  - **4**. The method of claim **3**, further comprising: creating a helical groove relative to the bore as the bone cutting tool is rotating about the longitudinal axis.
- 5. The method of claim 3, wherein rotating the bone cutting formed having a 360° shoulder 472 therewith. Each rotation 25 tool about the longitudinal axis is performed until a stop at a proximal end of the bone cutting tool engages the outer surface of the bone.
  - **6**. The method of claim **1**, further comprising: removing the bone at the distal end of the bore to form the bone pocket by the continuously rotating the bone cutting tool at the predetermined depth.
  - 7. The method of claim 1, wherein rotating the bone cutting tool about the longitudinal axis includes forming a first aperture in the bone with a portion of the bone cutting tool having a first diameter.
    - 8. A method for attaching a fixation device to a bone, the method comprising:
      - bringing a bone cutting tool having a helical flute into engagement with an outer surface of the bone;
      - rotating the bone cutting tool about a longitudinal axis to form a first bore having a helical flute groove extending from the outer surface of the bone to a depth within the
      - continuously rotating the bone cutting tool at the depth to establish a second bore having a shoulder and a continuous sidewall, the shoulder extending around a circumference between the second bore and the first bore;

aligning the bone cutting tool with the first bore;

drawing the bone cutting tool out of the second and first bores;

inserting the fixation device into the second bore through the first bore; and

- positioning the fixation device against the shoulder of the second bore.
- 9. The bone cutting tool of claim 8, wherein continuously rotating the bone cutting tool is performed while maintaining the bone cutting tool in a substantially stationary position without removing the bone cutting tool from the first bore.
- 10. The bone cutting tool of claim 8, wherein rotating the bone cutting tool about the longitudinal axis pulls the bone cutting tool into the bore.
- 11. The bone cutting tool of claim 10, wherein rotating the bone cutting tool about the longitudinal axis is performed until a stop at a proximal end of the bone cutting tool engages the outer surface of the bone.